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SEP 27 1996

TO: Mr. William F. Caton, Acting Secretary, FCC

FROM: Alan Stillwell, OET

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: Ex Parte Presentation in MM Docket 87-268 (Advanced
Television Systems and Their Impact Upon the Existing Television
Broadcast Service)

Dear Mr. Caton;

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 (a) of the Commission's Rules, this is to notify you that a Digital Television Allotment Forum was held on September 27, 1996.

Attached is a copy of the Agenda as well as a list of FCC personnel participating.

The discussion concerned the Commission's proposals in the Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rule making (Notice) in MM Docket No. 87-268, FCC 96-317, released August 14, 1996. Subjects addressed included the Commission's policy proposals regarding allotment of channels for digital TV (DTV) service, the methodology used to develop a DTV Table of Allotments and the draft Table included in the Notice. Parties attending the Forum indicated that there are some errors in the engineering data base of the existing TV stations. In addition, a representative of the low power TV community suggested that the Commission establish working groups to assist low power TV and TV translator stations.

The Forum was videotaped. Information on how to obtain a copy of the videotape is set forth on the attachment hereto.

I would be grateful if you would see that a copy of this Memo and the attachments hereto are inserted in the Docket of this proceeding.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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**OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY TO HOLD PUBLIC FORUM
ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH TO DISCUSS
DIGITAL TELEVISION ALLOTMENT PLAN**

September 6, 1996

The Office of Engineering and Technology, in cooperation with the Mass Media Bureau and the Office of Plans and Policy, will hold a public forum on the key technical and engineering issues of the Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in Docket No. 87-268, which was recently adopted by the Commission. This open forum will provide industry engineers, technical staff and other interested parties an opportunity to learn about the DTV allotment process and to participate in the discussion of this subject.

An example of issues that may be discussed include, but are not limited to the following:

- 1) DTV Allotment/Assignment Principles
- 2) Allotment Methodology and Approach
- 3) Computer Software used in the Development of the DTV Allotment Table
- 4) Draft Table of DTV Allotments
- 5) DTV Allotment Negotiations and Modifications
- 6) NTSC Station Facility Changes
- 7) DTV Implementation and Timing

After the presentations there will be a question and answer period. The Forum will be held on Thursday, September 26, 1996 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon in the Commission Meeting Room (Room 856), 1919 M Street, N.W.

Office of Engineering and Technology contact: Helena Mitchell at (202) 418-2930

-FCC-



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

DIGITAL TELEVISION ALLOTMENT FORUM
September 26, 1996

AGENDA

- 9:30 - 9:40 a.m. **Welcome**
Richard M. Smith, Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology
- 9:40 - 10:15 a.m. **Overview of DTV Allotment Issues**
Bruce Franca, Deputy Chief, OET
- 10:15 - 10:30 a.m. **Modification of Existing Stations**
Keith Larson, Assistant Chief (Engineering), Mass Media Bureau
- 10:30 - 12 noon **Questions and Answers**
- Office of Engineering and Technology
Robert Bromery, Chief, Allocations and Standards Division
Alan Stillwell, Economic Advisor
Robert Eckert, Senior Engineer
- Office of Plans and Policy
Robert Pepper, Chief
- Mass Media Bureau
Saul Shapiro, Assistant Chief, (Technology Policy)

The Forum will be videotaped. If you would like a copy, please indicate the date and title of the event when placing your order. Copies of the tape are available through:

TELSPAN INTERNATIONAL, INC.
8201 Corporate Drive, Suite 600
Landover, MD 20785
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Fax: (301) 731- 4407